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SUBJECT: GUINEA RESTRUCTURES GOVERNMENT

¶1. (U) Under a presidential decree signed late last week and announced on national television the evening of June 13, President Lansana Conte authorized an extensive restructuring of the Guinean Government. There are now a total of 33 separate ministries in addition to three independent secretary general positions. Previously, the GoG consisted of 18 ministries and one secretary general. No ministers have yet been named, but an announcement is expected in the near future.

¶2. (U) Under the decree, the following ministries and positions fall under the authority of the prime minister:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of National Defense
- Ministry of Territorial Administration and Political Affairs
- Ministry of Planning and Cooperation
- Ministry of Sustainable Development and the Environment
- Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development
- Ministry of Security and Civil Protection
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Economy and Finance
- Ministry of State Control and Good Governance
- Ministry for Guineans Abroad and African Integration
- Ministry for National Reconciliation, Solidarity, and Institutional Relations
- Ministry of Administrative Reform and Public Function
- Ministry for the Promotion of Youth Employment
- Ministry of Mines and Geology
- Ministry of Energy and Hydrology
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Cultivation and the Protection of Animals
- Ministry of Fishing and Aquaculture
- Ministry of Commerce and Competitiveness
- Ministry of Industrial Development
- Ministry of Transportation
- Ministry of Public Works
- Ministry of Urbanism and Habitat
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- Ministry of Pre-University Education and Civic Education
- Ministry of Technical and Professional Training
- Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene
- Ministry of Social Affairs and the Promotion of Women and Children
- Ministry of Youth and Sports
- Ministry of Communication and New Information Technologies
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Leisure
- Secretary General of the Presidency
- Secretary General of the Government
- Secretary General of Religious Affairs

COMMENT

¶3. (SBU) Although expected, the expansion of the GoG bureaucracy suggests that the old regime is on its way back. In effect, the number of ministries has doubled, creating twice as many ministerial positions, and twice as much opportunity for graft and corruption. This new government now has more ministerial positions than any previous government in the history of the country (the pre-Kouyate government had 31 positions). Everyone is now waiting to see the actual ministerial appointments, which will provide a good idea of the likely direction of Guinean governance in the months ahead. END COMMENT
CARTER